(i) Prophylaxis Programme to prevent Nutritional Blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency. This is also under the RCH programme.

(ii) National Iodine Deficiency Disease Control Programme (NIDDCP).

(iii) Pilot Programme for control of Micronutrient Deficiencies.

Treatment in charitable hospitals

†3286. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that treatment in many renowned charitable hospitals become more costly than the five star hotels;

(b) the provisions made for the treatment of common man in such hospitals;

(c) whether Government have formulated any policy to provide treatment facilities on reasonable charges to common man in these charitable hospitals;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) Health being a State subject, it is for the State Government to regulate the functioning of charitable hospitals and to ensure availability of treatment facilities on reasonable charges to common man.

Committee on controlling of female foeticide

†3287. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the graph of foeticide and the difference in the ratio of boy-girl are on rise in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereon;

(c) whether Government have decided to constitute a high-level Committee to resolve this issue;

(d) if so, whether the social service organisations are also proposed to be included in this Committee; and

(e) by when the Committee would be constituted and would submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Sex ratio in India has declined over the century from 972 in 1901 to 927 in 1991. The sex ratio has since gone up to 933 in 2001. In contrast the **child sex ratio** for the age group of 0-6 years in 2001 is **927** girls per thousand boys against **945** recorded in 1991 Census.

(b) Amendment to the Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994 to make it more comprehensive has been carried out in 2003. A number of measures both for strict implementation of the Act as well as for creating awareness on the issue has been undertaken by the Government.

(c) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (H&FW) to examine various amendments/revisions to Act to make its implementation more effective and various issues related to it has been constituted.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The Committee would present its report in the next meeting of Central Supervisory Board likely to be held in June 2007.

Burns Department in Safdarjung Hospital

3288. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Burns Department in Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi is the only one in Northern India which has now become a paradise of rats and cockroaches;